

**SEIU Local 503, Oregon Public Employees Union  
2018 General Council Rules Committee Report  
Lane Events Center, Eugene, Oregon  
August 9-11, 2018**

**I**

Adoption. The adoption of this report by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the delegates present and voting provides the rules under which the business of this General Council shall be conducted. After adoption, these rules can be amended or suspended only by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote.

**II**

Procedural Authorities. The supreme authority for General Council procedures are the Bylaws of the Union and the SEIU International Constitution and Bylaws, as provided in Local 503's affiliation agreement. These rules and the Administrative Procedures and Policies of the Union adopted by General Council constitute the secondary authorities. These rules are followed by the procedures found in Robert's Newly Revised Rules of Order insofar as Robert's rules are not in conflict with the Bylaws, the AP&P, or these rules.

**III**

Order of the Day. These rules include the published agenda as submitted to the General Council. This agenda shall constitute the Order of the Day. The Order of the Day can be amended or suspended only by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the delegates present and voting.

**IV**

Admission to Council. For security purposes and to facilitate identification and seating, delegates, alternates, staff, and others shall be required to wear an issued badge at all times while at General Council.

**V**

Credentials Report. The Credentials Committee, directly after the opening of the Council, shall report the number of delegates and Locals present. If there are any changes from the prior report, the Credentials Committee shall make a supplementary report at the beginning of each day.

**VI**

Resolutions Debate.

Section 1. The author or a delegate from the sponsoring group shall be given the opportunity to open debate and to close in rebuttal. The delegate opening or closing debate on a resolution or on a motion may speak for one and one-half (1 ½) minutes each time. These opening and closing statements shall not be counted against the total time limit for debate on the resolution.

Section 2. Other delegates wishing to speak in **FAVOR** of a resolution or motion on the floor shall seek the chairperson's recognition by going to a mic designated as "**PRO**" (**GREEN**). Delegates wishing to speak in **OPPOSITION** to a motion on the floor shall seek the chairperson's recognition by going to a mic designated as "**CON**" (**RED**). The chairperson shall try to alternate recognition, as far as possible, between those favoring the motion on the floor, and those opposed. Delegates wishing to **MAKE A SUBSIDIARY MOTION** shall seek the

chairperson's recognition by going to any mic and holding up a **BLUE CARD**, and shall be recognized in the order by which they sought the floor.

Delegates may speak up to one and one-half (1 ½) minutes (90 seconds) on resolutions or debatable motions. Delegates needing translation to speak on a resolution or debatable motion may speak up to three (3) minutes if speaking and translation are not simultaneous.

Section 3. No delegate shall be entitled to speak again on a resolution or motion if any delegates that wish to speak for the first time have not been heard. Nor shall any speaker be entitled to hold the floor for longer than one and one-half (1 ½) minutes, except as outlined in Section 2 with regard to translation requirements. Total debate on any resolution, and main motion and pending secondary motions, including amendments, shall not exceed a total of 20 minutes unless extended by a majority vote of the delegates. When the time for debate has elapsed, the chair shall offer to entertain a motion to extend debate. Extensions shall be in 10 minute increments. Debate shall be limited to delegates unless a person named and present has permission to speak through a majority vote.

Section 4. No delegate may speak more than twice on any question unless granted an exception by the Chairperson/President.

## VII

### Committee Process. (Chairperson Voting.)

Section 1. The chairperson of a General Council Committee has the right to vote only when their vote will affect the outcome.

Section 2. Committee debate shall observe the same time limits for debate as set out in these Rules for floor debate. However, the Chair of each committee may, on their own authority, decide to change these time limits on debate and the frequency with which a delegate may speak in order to accommodate Committee needs.

## VIII

### Eligible Voters.

Section 1. Voting delegates of the General Council shall be those members for whom proof of their election has been received and accepted by the Credentials Committee. Members elected to an office which requires them to serve as a delegate to the General Council shall succeed the delegate accredited for that office during the regular session. Members who became entitled to delegate accreditation in the interim between regular sessions shall be entitled to vote upon acceptance of their proof of election by the Credential Committee.

Section 2. Staff advisors are non-voting members of the General Council Committees.

Unelected Delegates. Unelected delegates, including past presidents of SEIU 503 who are non-voting delegates under the Bylaws, may not vote on resolutions or motions, or make or second motions. They may speak to resolutions and motions.

Conduct. Attendees shall observe the right of Union members to have opinions heard and respected, and the responsibility of members to treat all workers and members fairly, as provided in the Union's Bylaws. Disrespectful or disorderly conduct shall be handled by the General Council and committee chairpersons as provided in Robert's Rules of Order.

Recording and Streaming. There will be no audio or video recording, or livestreaming, without permission of persons being recorded or streamed. There will be no recording or streaming during debates or committee sessions.

Facility Rules. Animals: The Lane Event Center only allows service animals, which must be identified as service animals. Parking: Attendees must park in designated parking areas and out of fire lanes. Safety: For the safety of all, no firearms are allowed on the premises. Smoking: See Rule XVI.

## IX

Voting System. Voting by voice (aye or no) shall be the normal system used. However, the chairperson may elect to use a standing vote. A quorum being present, resolutions affecting the Bylaws are adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present. Any delegate may call upon the chair for a standing vote either before or after the chairperson has announced the results of the voting. Standing votes shall be used in any appeal of a decision from the chair.

## X

Resolutions Withdrawal. Any resolutions submitted to the General Council can be withdrawn only by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting.

## XI

Resolutions in Committee. No committee shall change the meaning or intent of a resolution, without the consent of the sponsoring group. These committees are given the responsibility and authority to modify, hold in committee, combine, divide, and subsequently present resolutions to the General Council in the form of recommended amendments.

## XII

Resolution Transfer. The chairpersons of the involved committees must advise the President of recommendations to move a resolution from one committee to another prior to the next convening of the general assembly. The President shall approve all transfers and shall report the transfers as the first order of business.

## XIII

Committee Reports.

Section 1. Each resolution as presented by the committee shall be regarded as the main motion under consideration. The Committee shall make a report recommending adoption or rejection of each resolution except those held in committee. The main motion under consideration shall be a motion to adopt or reject the resolution as presented.

Section 2. The chair of the committee that reports the resolution may speak for five (5) minutes on the adoption of a resolution as presented, and other delegates may speak for one and one-half (1 ½) minutes. Total debate on any main motion and pending secondary motions, including amendments shall not exceed a total of 20 minutes unless extended by a majority vote of the delegates. When the time for debate has elapsed, the chair shall offer to entertain a motion to extend debate. Extensions shall be in 10 minute increments. The chair's opening report shall not be counted against the total time limit for debate on the resolution.

#### **XIV**

Held in Committee Action. Any resolution "held in committee" may be brought before the General Council by simple majority vote of the delegates on a motion to do so. Such a motion shall be regarded as the main motion under consideration.

#### **XV**

Motion to Table. A motion to table is in order but only if the motion is to table to a time certain during the proceedings of this General Council.

#### **XVI**

Reconsideration. A motion to reconsider earlier action is in order but only once per issue and must be done before the next committee report begins.

#### **XVI**

No Smoking Rule. There shall be no smoking in the facility. Smoking is allowed only in outside designated smoking areas. These designated smoking areas shall be clearly marked. Smoking includes electronic smoking, including vaping.

#### **XVIII**

Section 1. Electronic Communication Devices. While business is being conducted, electronic devices (video or audio) shall be turned off. Unauthorized filming or recording of the proceedings is prohibited. Mobile devices shall be made silent in both the general assembly and the committee meeting rooms.

Section 2. Sidebar Conversations. In that sidebar conversations can be disruptive to the business at hand, delegates are encouraged to move these conversations off of the council floor, and outside committee rooms. Pages and Sergeants-at-Arms are authorized to ask delegates to take disruptive sidebar conversations off the floor.

Section 3. Wheelchair/scooter courtesy. In recognition of the Union's support of ADA/accessibility accommodations, courtesy will be extended to people using mobility devices in moving on the council floor. Delegates are asked to allow people using mobility devices and their assistants to move ahead of the line for services/food.

Section 4. Signs or Banners. No signs or banners, other than official Council signs and banners shall be permitted on the Council floor. Signs and banners will be permitted in the gallery/observer seating area.

#### **XIII**

The Standing Rules Committee. The Standing Rules Committee is authorized to edit all adopted amendments to the Bylaws to ensure these amendments conform to existing language; such editing shall be non-substantive in nature. The committee shall report any such editing to the Board of Directors within ninety (90) days of the adjournment of the General Council.

**XIX**

Rules Committee Report. This report of the Rules Committee shall be presented to the General Council for appropriate action by motion of the chairperson of said committee.